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The author takes the opportunity of correcting Huxley's hasty generalization respecting the absence of basipterygoids in *Procellariidae*—an error which, however, had been already exposed.\* Although these processes are absent in *Diomedea* and rudimentary in "*Thalassidroma*," they are well developed in other genera; and the fact is, that basipterygoids are highly characteristic of the *Procellariidae*.—ELLIOTT COUES.

GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF INSECTS.†—A third and revised edition of this work has appeared with a few changes and additions of considerable importance. The author calls attention to the change in his views as to the number of segments in the head of six-footed insects; there being four instead of seven. A brief account of the recent discovery of Parthenogenesis in the pupa of a *Chironomus* is given; and also of wax-secreting glands lately found in wax-producing insects, *i. e.*, the bees, aphides and bark lice (*Coccidae*). Moreover a correct figure of the caterpillar and chrysalis of *Melitæa Harrisii*, takes the place of the incorrect representation in the first two editions, while a short notice of the worm-like mites, *Linguatulina*, is inserted.

The Appendix consists of illustrated notices of the early stages of certain ichneumon parasites; of the embryonal membranes of insects; of the development of the louse; the mode of formation of the wings of insects; of *Paolia*, a remarkable fossil carboniferous insect and of abdominal sense organs of certain insects, while sketches of Schiödte's new classification of the Hemiptera, and Thorell's arrangement of the spiders are presented. Two plates are added, illustrating injurious and beneficial insects. Two other steel plates, one of lice, the other of *Thysanura* are added, and several new species of insects referred to.

THE DESMIDS.‡ Microscopists will welcome this beautiful memoir on the desmids of Sweden. It will be invaluable to American observers, as there is so much similarity between the

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\* By T. HALE STREETS. Proc. Phila. Acad., 1870, 85.

† Guide to the Study of Insects, and a Treatise on those injurious and beneficial to Crops: for the use of Colleges, Farm-Schools, and Agriculturists. By A. S. Packard, Jr., M.D. With 15 plates and 670 woodcuts. Third edition. Salem, 1872. 8vo. pp. 715. Price reduced to \$5.00.

‡ De Desmidiaceis, quæ in Suecia inventæ sunt. Observationes criticæ. Auctore P. M. Lundell. Cum tabulis V, pp. 100. Nova Acta of the Royal Society of Sciences of Upsala, 4to, 1871.